



US006415263B1

(12) **United States Patent**
Doss(10) **Patent No.:** **US 6,415,263 B1**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Jul. 2, 2002**(54) **SYSTEM AND METHODS FOR
DETERMINING AND DISPLAYING
PRODUCT PRICING**(75) Inventor: **Gary L. Doss**, Lawrenceville, GA (US)(73) Assignee: **NCR Corporation**, Dayton, OH (US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **09/211,687**(22) Filed: **Dec. 14, 1998**(51) **Int. Cl.**⁷ **G06F 17/60**(52) **U.S. Cl.** **705/26; 705/16; 705/20; 707/10**(58) **Field of Search** **705/1, 16, 20, 705/26, 27; 707/10, 100**(56) **References Cited****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

5,542,078 A * 7/1996 Martel et al. 707/101
 5,745,754 A * 4/1998 Lagarde et al. 707/102
 5,897,622 A * 4/1999 Blinn et al. 705/26

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EP 1028376 A1 * 8/2000

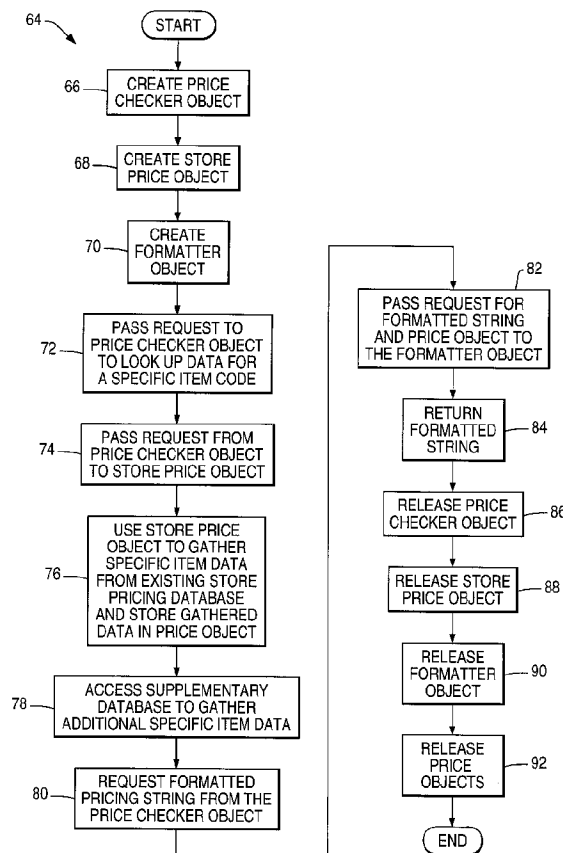
OTHER PUBLICATIONS

"SourcingDirect.com"; Dairy Foods, Oct. 2000, vol. 101, No. 10, p. 10.*

* cited by examiner

Primary Examiner—Edward R. Cosimano(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Priest & Goldstein, PLLC(57) **ABSTRACT**

A system for determining and displaying product pricing for an item comprises a price checker object for gathering and assembling pricing information associated with the item. A store price object coupled to the price checker object provides an interface between the price checker object and an existing store database, and a price object coupled to the store price object holds data retrieved from the existing store database. A supplementary database coupled to the price checker object provides supplementary data associated with the item. Further, a formatter object coupled to the price checker object and the price object receives as an input the data contained in the price object and provides as an output a formatted output string.

14 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets

US-PAT-NO: 6415263

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6415263 B1

TITLE: System and methods for determining and displaying
product pricing

----- KWIC -----

Application Filing Date - AD (1):
19981214

Detailed Description Text - DETX (9):
(6) Providing a description of the manufacturer's suggested retail price
(MSRP) of the item.

Detailed Description Text - DETX (21):
In addition, FIG. 2A shows various formats that price information may take. Button 32a shows the basic quantity sale price format, in which the price of an item is expressed as a number of items for sale at a given price, for example, "3/\$10.50." Button 32b shows the package quantity discount sale price format, which expresses the price in the alternative, for example, "\$7.00 each or 2 for \$12.00." Button 32c shows the weight sale price format, which displays the price per unit weight, for example, "\$1.99 per oz." Button 32d shows the weight quantity sale price format, which displays the price for a given weight quantity, for example, "4 pounds for \$4.00." Finally, buttons 32e and 32f simply show items and their respective sale prices.

Detailed Description Text - DETX (24):
FIG. 2D shows the screen 30c that results if a retail customer presses the "special pricing" button appearing on the right side of the screen shown in FIG. 2C. This screen 30c includes a box 46 showing the normal price, the sale price, and the special offer "buy 2 glasses, get 1 free."

Detailed Description Text - DETX (46):
The store price object 28 is a COM object providing a translation interface that allows the existing store price data to be made available in the common price record format. Examination of existing systems have shown that there are four primary categories of price: Normal, Sale, Loyalty, and Manufacturer. The Normal price is the price normally charged when an item is not on sale. The Sale price is the price charged during a sale. The Loyalty price is the price charged to a customer who is a member of a loyalty or customer rewards program. The Manufacturer's price is the manufacturer's suggested retail price (MSRP) for the item. In the presently preferred embodiment of the invention, the store price object only supplies prices for those categories that are supported in the existing store pricing data.

FIG. 2A

